



July 13, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Pittsburg is located in the southeast corner of Kansas and is often considered the "Gateway to the Ozarks." The Pittsburg area is within a few hours of several of the country's larger trade areas, including Kansas City, Tulsa, Wichita and Springfield, Missouri.

At the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, we are the leading advocate for the business community. Our job is to promote the interests of local businesses while also attracting new business to the region, and on behalf of the business community of Pittsburg, I write to urge your support for the proposed merger of AT&T and T-Mobile USA.

The main and most significant impact of this merger is that were it approved, AT&T would expand high-speed mobile broadband access to over 97 percent of the country. This would have the greatest and most beneficial impact on rural communities and smaller cities – areas just like Pittsburg.

This merger will certainly help our efforts to attract new business investment and to help our existing businesses grow. It will better connect us with the trade areas in our region and even help promote telecommuting and information sharing.

Beyond the immediate impact on local businesses, the expansion of high-speed mobile broadband access that would result from this merger would also benefit our schools and health care institutions deliver service to our residents. All-in-all, this merger would bring many positive results to the Pittsburg area and to other rural areas across the country, and I strongly urge you to approve it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blake Benson", written over a horizontal line.

Blake Benson, President
Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce